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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/987,058	11/13/2001	Tadashi Kondo	Q67226	6301

7590 06/10/2004
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EXAMINER

HUBER, PAUL W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2653

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/987,058

Applicant(s)

KONDO, TADASHI

Examiner

Paul Huber

Art Unit

2653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 6-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Art Unit: 2653

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 and 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sato (USP-5,937,136).

Regarding claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, and 9, Sato discloses an information recording/reproducing apparatus for recording information on a recording medium and for reproducing recorded information from the recording medium in accordance with a reproducing procedure designated by a user. See abstract and figure 9. The "...description [in reference to figure 15] is related to an example of the video data edit/reproduction apparatus which can re-arrange the contents of the recording medium by programming so that scenes not selected by the operator are regarded as 'unnecessary' and only necessary scenes are left in a reproduction program" (col. 11, lines 39-44). "If needed, the recording medium may be initialized by clearing to zero or null in order to logically erase data in areas in which unnecessary scenes are stored" (col. 12, lines 24-26). Therefore, the information recording/reproducing apparatus, comprises: a detecting unit for detecting an unnecessary portion of the recorded information which is not to be reproduced according to any one of the reproducing procedure as claimed; and an erasing unit for erasing the recorded information corresponding to the unnecessary portion as claimed.

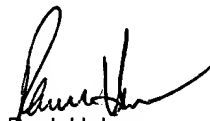
Regarding claims 2 and 7, the detecting unit comprises: a first unit for detecting necessary portion of the recorded information which is to be reproduced by the reproducing procedure for all of the reproducing procedure (see figure 15, steps S52-S59); and a second unit for determining the portion of the recorded information other than the necessary portion detecting by the first unit as the unnecessary portion (see col. 12, lines 24-26).

Art Unit: 2653

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The prior art cited on the PTO-892 each disclose an information//reproducing apparatus for performing an editing function on a recording medium.

Claims 5 and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Paul Huber at telephone number 703-308-1549.



Paul Huber
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2653